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ENG 1092-097: Composition and Literature

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English 1092G-097 Literature and Composition
 Dr. Susan Bazargan
 TTH 12:30-1:45 CH 202
 Office Hours: T 11-12, 2-3:30, TH 2-3:30 and by appointment
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Course objectives:

The purpose of this course is to enhance your reading and writing skills, your awareness of rhetorical strategies, and your critical and analytical thinking about literary texts.

Required texts:

Barnet, Sylvan, et al., eds. *An Introduction to Literature*
 Griffith, Kelley. *Writing Essays About Literature*
 Hacker, Diana. *A Pocket Style Manual*
 Shelley, Mary. *Frankenstein*

You need to purchase a xeroxed copy of the play *Lysistrata* from Copy X-Press located in the Union Building.

Course requirements:

1. Three essays (3-4 pages long)
2. One review article (of the play *Lysistrata*; 1-2 pages long)
3. One revised essay
4. One research essay (6-7 pages long)

All essays need to be typed, double-spaced, with 1" margins on all sides, a title for the essay, your name and course number placed at the top of page 1.

5. Two exams. The first exam will be given on March 8 and will cover material studied up to that date. The second exam will be given on April 27 and will cover material studied since March 8.

Grading Policy:

The three essays (one revised) and the review article: 55% of your total grade

The research paper: 15%

The two exams: 30%

I'm very strict about class attendance. If you're ill or have to take care of an emergency and can't come to class, please call my office or home and let me know! You can have only two unexcused absences during the semester; any more absences have to be excused; otherwise your grade will suffer. Late papers will be downgraded (5 points per day).

Grading scale: C-: 70-74; C: 75-77; C+: 78-79; B-: 80-84; B: 85-87; B+: 88-89; A-: 90-94; A: 95-97; A+: 98-100.

Papers a week or more late will not be accepted at all. You need to receive at least a score of 70 (over 100) to pass this course.

Conferences:

Please feel free to stop by my office to talk about your work, problems you may be having in class, etc. My office hours are posted; if they aren't convenient for you, we can find a better time to meet.

You need to meet with me at least three times during the semester to discuss the topics you've chosen for your essays and your research paper.

Writing Groups:

You'll be placed in a writing group of 4-5 people. You'll meet with the members of your group to discuss the first draft of each of your three essays and to do peer editing. Some students like to meet with their group outside the class also to discuss their work. I encourage you to do so!

The Writing Center:

The Writing Center (301 Coleman Hall) is a great resource. Tutors (graduate students in the English Department) are available to discuss your paper with you and provide assistance. Hours are posted, but it may be more convenient to make an appointment.

Other policies:

The English Department's policy on plagiarism states that "Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism--'the appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's original work' (Random House Dictionary of the English Language)--has the right and responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignments of a grade of F for the assigned essay and a grade of NC for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office."

If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

Assignments:

Essay # 1:

Choose one of the poems in Barnet, preferably from the section called "Three Poets in Depth" (starting on page 734). Think carefully about the various elements of poetry used in the poem; then write three possible topics on the poem of your choice. Sign up to see me for a conference on January 23 or 25. We'll go over your paper topics and decide on a topic. The first draft of your essay is due on February 1, when you'll meet with your writing group to go over the draft (bring enough copies for your group). The final draft is due on February 6.

2. Review article:

Watch the EIU Theater Department's production of *Lysistrata* (February 22-24) and write a 1-2 page review of the play. Read Chapter 6 (Evaluating the Quality of Literature) in Griffith for guidelines. The readers of *The Daily Eastern News* are your target audience. Your review article is due on February 27.

3. Essay # 2:

Choose one play you've always wanted to read and didn't find time to do so. Write three topics on the play of your choice and sign up for a conference to see me (March 6 or 8). The first draft of your essay is due on March 20, when you meet with your group. The final draft is due on March 22.

4. Essay # 3

Think carefully about *Frankenstein* and write three paper topics on the novel. Bring your topics to class on April 3. I'll make a list of the best choices and you can then choose one for your essay. The first draft is due on April 12, when you'll meet with your group. The final draft is due on April 17.

5. Research Paper

Choose your favorite novel, play, or series of poems. Do research on the historical period in which the text was written and familiarize yourself with a social, cultural, artistic, or scientific change, issue, or phenomenon occurring at that time. Write an essay in which you explore the ways in which the author has directly or indirectly dealt with or explored this specific issue in his/her work. Conferences to discuss your research paper will be held during the week after spring break. Your research paper is due on April 27, but you can turn it in sooner if you like.

6. Revised essay

You have the chance to revise one of your essays, probably the one you're least satisfied with. You can make an appointment to see me before revising the paper. Both conceptual revision as well as stylistic changes need to be implemented. The grade on this specific paper will be the one received on the last version. There is no due date on your revised essay, but the sooner you turn it in, the better.

Class Meetings:

Jan. 9: Introduction to the course. Diagnostic writing.

I: Poetry

Jan. 11: Barnet, Chapter 1, Griffith, Chapters 1 and 2

Jan. 16: Barnet, Chapter 2

Jan. 18: Barnet, Chapter 11, Griffith, Chapter 5

Sign up for individual conferences

Jan. 23: Griffith, Chapter 5 (continued), Barnet, Chapter 12 (pp. 508-513) and the following poems "Ode on a Grecian Urn" and "Sympathy"

Individual Conferences

Jan. 25: "Because I Could Not Stop for Death" (p. 741-42) in Barnet; Griffith, pp.277-280. Barnet, Chapter 13, pp. 529-531 and the following poems in the same chapter: "We Real Cool" "Barbie Doll" and "My Last Duchess"

Individual Conferences

Jan. 30: Barnet (poems from Chap. 13 continued); Chap. 14 (pp. 552-561) and the poem "Digging" in the same chapter

Feb. 1: Peer Review of Essay # 1

Feb. 6: **First Essay is due.**

Barnet, Chapter 15 (pp. 569-571) and the poems "Kubla Khan" and "Diving into the Wreck" ; Chapter 16 (pp. 585-586) and the poems "To His Coy Mistress" and "Ethics"

Feb. 8: Barnet, Chapter 17 and 18

II. Drama

Feb. 13: Barnet, Chapter 22, pp.777-783; Chapter 24, pp. 977-986

Feb. 15: Aristophanes, *Lysistrata*

Feb. 20: *Lysistrata*

Feb. 22: Barnet, Chapter 23, pp. 795-799. Miller, *Death of a Salesman*

Feb. 27: **Review article on Lysistrata is due.**

Death of a Salesman (continued)

Sign up for Individual Conferences

March 1: Barnet, Chapter 25; Griffith, Chapter 4

Individual Conferences

March 6: Fierstein, *On Tidy Endings*

Individual Conferences

March 8: **Exam # 1**

Spring Break

March 20: Peer review of Essay # 2

III. Fiction

March 22: **Essay # 2 is due.**

Griffith, Chapter 3; Shelley, *Frankenstein*, pp.3-38

March 27: *Frankenstein*, pp.38-124

March 29: *Frankenstein*, pp. 124-185

April 3: Barnet, Appendix B: Writing a Research Paper (pp. 1513-1531)

Griffith, Sample Research Paper, pp.231-237.

Bring to class three paper topics on Frankenstein

April 5: All in Barnet: "What We Talk about When We Talk About Love" and the interview following the story; "The Yellow Wallpaper"

April 10: All in Barnet: "A Rose for Emily" "The Chrysanthemums" "Guests of the Nation"

April 12: "Araby" "The Answer is No" "The Lesson"

April 17: Peer review of Essay # 3

April 19: **Essay # 3 is due.**

"Two Kinds" "Everyday Use" "The Things They Carried"

Sign up for the final conference

April 24: No Class (Conferences in my office regarding the research paper)

April 26: **Exam # 2**

Research Papers are due on April 30 (in my mailbox)